

Frequency of Major depression and Substance abuse among the Street children in Ardabil in 94: Injuries and risk factors associated with street children

Abstract

Introduction: Nowadays along with expansion in urbanisation and failure in creating job opportunities, family members are growingly tend to do indecent and vagrant works, and due to low income and lack of having appropriate shelter the number of street children are increasing. In regards to the growing number of street children and high rate of mental issue cases and abusing these children, in this thesis the degree of substantial depression and drug abuse among street children in city of Ardebil is studied.

Materials and Methods: In this research which is a sectional explanatory study, 110 children between 7 to 18 years old are randomly selected and after examination of demographic factors, age, divorce, career, and addiction of their parents, the level of depression is evaluated by using psychological tests, and drug abuse is investigated by using a urine test kit (ABON).

Results: Boys are formed 63% of the children studied in this study and the level of depression based of the derived measurement of K-SAD, CDI, and HAMILTON is approximately 30% which is considerably higher than normal children. In this study 0% resulted in drug abuse.

Conclusion: Due to high prevalence of depression among street children, lack of appropriate supervision, the parents` addiction, divorce and separation, low income and death of the parents could be the main reasons for high rate of depression in these children.

Key words: Major depression, Substance abuse, Street children, CDI, K-SADS, HAMILTON